

DIME NOVEL ROUND-UP



A monthly magazine devoted to the collecting, preservation and literature of the old-time dime and nickel novels, libraries and popular story papers.

Vol. 27 No. 4

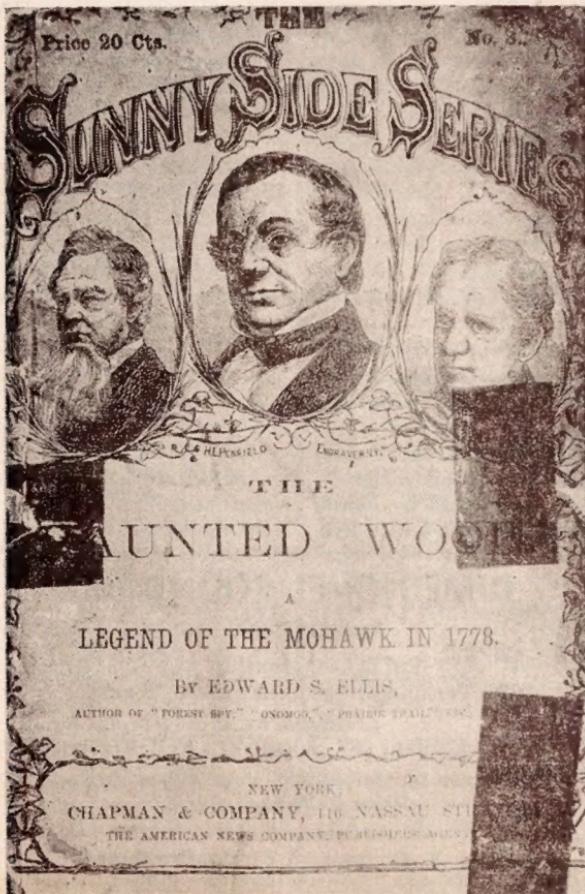
April 15, 1959

Whole No. 319

The Pseudonyms of Edward S. Ellis

Part III (cont.)

by Denis R. Rogers



Sunnyside Series No. 3—The Haunted Wood. A Legend of the Mohawk in 1778
by Edward S. Ellis.

Another rare Ellis item from the Rogers collection.

The Pseudonyms of Edward S. Ellis

Part III (Cont.)

3. "A Maternal Heroine" by F. G. Harland (H, Vol. II, No. 46, 4 Oct. 1884) (SN, Vol. XIV, No. 46, 28 July 1877).

4. "The Cobra-Di-Capello" by Paul Lindon (H, Vol. IV, No. 3, 5 Dec. 1885) (SN, Vol. XII, No. 51, 4 Sep. 1875).

5. "A Bride of the Ocean" by Ralph Martin (H, Vol. II, No. 31, 21 June 1884) (SN, Vol. XII, No. 50, 28 Aug. 1875).

6. "The Green Dragon of the Plains" by Mark Middleton (H, Vol. IV, No. 6, 26 Dec. 1885) (SN, Vol. XVI, No. 34, 3 May 1879).

7a. "A Strange Rescue" by B. M. Neill (H, Vol. IV, No. 7, 2 Jan. 1886) (SN, Vol. XVI, No. 40, 14 June 1879).

7b. "A Strange Captivity" by B. M. Neill (H, Vol. IV, No. 8, 9 Jan. 1886) (SN, Vol. XVI, No. 29, 29 Mar. 1879).

8. "The Crown Jewels" by John Rodgers (H, Vol. III, No. 47, 10 Oct. 1885) (SN, Vol. XIV, No. 34, 5 May 1877).

9. "An Unwelcome Visitor" by Joseph Warren (H, Vol. II, No. 14, 23 Feb. 1884) (SN, Vol. XII, No. 40, 19 June 1875).

(B) Reprints of Sketches in "Saturday Night" by Edward S. Ellis.

10. "A Strange Deliverance" by Frank Alden (H, Vol. IV, No. 5, 19 Dec. 1885) (SN, Vol. XVI, No. 40, 14 June 1879).

11. "Better Late than Never" by Major Henry Boulton (H, Vol. IV, No. 8, 9 Jan. 1886) (SN, Vol. XII, No. 16, 1 Jan. 1876).

12a. "A Brave Wyandot" by Beverly Brandon (H, Vol. II, No. 51, 8 Nov. 1884) (SN, Vol. X, No. 46, 2 Aug. 1873).

12b. "A Desperate Encounter" by Beverly Brandon (H, Vol. III, No. 14, 21 Feb. 1885) (SN, Vol. X, No. 45, 26 July 1873).

13. "An Orkney Fowler" by Richard Courtney (H, Vol. III, No. 48, 17 Oct. 1885) (SN, Vol. XIII, No. 34, 6 May 1876).

14. "A Shower of Diamonds" by Bert Harris (H, Vol. IV, No. 2, 28 Nov. 1885) (SN, Vol. XVI, No. 13, 7 Dec. 1878).

15. "Betsey Brown" by Guy Herbert (H, Vol. II, No. 43, 13 Sep. 1884) (SN, Vol. XI, No. 51, 5 Sep. 1874).

16. "After Many Days" by A. F. Martin (H, Vol. II, No. 7, 3 Jan. 1885) (SN, Vol. XIV, No. 17, 6 Jan. 1877).

17. "The Haunted Inlet Mystery" by A. P. Morton (H, Vol. II, No. 50, 1 Nov. 1884) (SN, Vol. X, No. 39, 14 June 1873). This name also appears as Alfred P. Morton for other sketches.

18. "Seven Scenes" by Adelaide Anne

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and Full Page \$5.00. — 4 times for the price of three.Ads should be submitted by the 15th of the month in order to assure
publication in the following month's issue.

Proctor (H, Vol. IV, No. 7, 2 Jan. 1886) (SN, Vol. XV, No. 18, 12 Jan. 1878).

19. "A Border Hero" by Mary Reed (H, Vol. IV, No. 1, 21 Nov. 1885) (SN, Vol. XVI, No. 31, 12 Apr. 1879). This name also appears as Mary C. Reed for other sketches.

20. "A Brave Mother" by D. L. Reid (H, Vol. III, No. 42, 5 Sep. 1885) (SN, Vol. XVII, No. 21, 31 Jan. 1880).

21. "George Neilson's Thanksgiving" by Frank Wallace (H, Vol. III, No. 3, 6 Dec. 1884) (SN, Vol. XV, No. 13, 8 Dec. 1877).

There is also one author change which works in reverse, so to speak, to add a further name to the list of possible Ellis pen names. "Crime in a Cave" by A United States Detective (H, Vol. II, No. 8, 12 Jan. 1884) was a reprint from "Saturday Night" (Vol. XII, No. 43, 10 July 1875), where the by-line was An Officer of the U. S. Secret Service. Since "The Hearthstone" reprinted from "Saturday Night" no less than nine serials by A United States Detective, An Officer of the U. S. Secret Service would appear to have been a variation used for James Elverson by Ellis. It is perhaps worth noting that A United States Detective was used only for detective serials and An Officer of the U. S. Secret Service only for detective sketches in "Saturday Night."

By virtue of one of the names linked with Ellis through "The Hearthstone" reprints—No. 1 above—one more possible Ellis pen name has been brought to light. "The Attica Murder" by Capt. E. L. Burton (H, Vol. III, No. 4, 13 Dec. 1884) is a reprint from "Saturday Night" (Vol. XIV, No. 52, 8 Sep. 1877), where the author is given as Chester F. Baird.

Chester F. Baird is an important name, since it was used for one serial in Street & Smith's "The New York Weekly" ("The Mystery at Rahway or Romance and Tragedy of the Rail", Vol. XXXIII, No. 17, 11 March 1878 to No. 21, 8 April 1878). It was also used for a number of sketches in Street & Smith's "Good News," as well as for a series under the gener-

al title: "Head-Light Flashes or Life and Death on the Rail" in "Saturday Night." All these sketches have a railroad background and it is interesting to note that Ellis had a family connection with the railway. George Ellis, his brother, after serving as an engineer in the Federal Navy during the Civil War, became a locomotive engineer on the Pennsylvania Railroad ("Ellisana" by Wilmot E. Ellis, Summerville, S. C., November 1932). Ellis used railway adventure as a plot feature many times and there is little doubt that he was drawing on his brother's expert knowledge and railroad experience. Probably Ellis was able to ride the footplate himself from time to time.

Chester F. Baird has also been ascribed to W. I. James, Jr. ("Dime Novel Authors, 1860-1900" by W. C. Miller, Ralph Cummings, Grafton, Mass., Sep. 1933). I have no information as to Mr. Miller's source of information.

The reason why these by-lines can only be classified as possible pen names of Ellis is that one of them, Mark Middleton—No. 6 above—was also used (H, Vol. III, No. 27, 23 May 1885 to No. 38, 8 Aug. 1885) for a reprint of a serial originally appearing in "Saturday Night" ("Her Heart's Secret or Under a Spell," Vol. XV, No. 14, 15 Dec. 1877 to No. 25, 2 March 1878) as by Fannie Fairie.

Fannie Fairie had been suggested to me as a possible pen name of Ellis because of similarity of initials with another pen name of his, Frank Faulkner, also used for serials in "Saturday Night." However it has now been established beyond doubt that Fannie Fairie was a pen name of Mary Theresa Waggaman (1846-1931).

In "The Book of Catholic Authors" (First Series) by Walter Romig (Walter Romig & Co., Detroit, 1942, Page 273), Mrs. Esther W. Neill, Mrs. Waggaman's daughter, stated: "Mother wrote regularly for the secular Press serials, which were published under the nom de plume of Fannie Fairie . . ." When to that is added the following extract from "Initials and Pseudon-

yms. A Dictionary of Literary Disguises" by William Cushing, B. A. (Sampson Low, Marston, Searle & Rivington, London, 1866, Page 318), "Fairie, Fanny. Mrs. Mary T. Wag-gaman, in contributions to the "Weekly" (N. Y.)", the chances of error seem remote.

Moreover there is also circumstantial evidence that Ellis could not have been the author of the many Fannie Fairie serials which appeared in "Saturday Night." After Robert S. Davis left the firm of Davis & Elverson, Ellis wrote to Robert Bonner with a view to becoming a contributor to "The New York Ledger." In a letter dated 4 June 1881 (Robert Bonner Papers, New York Public Library), Ellis tells Bonner that, during his 12 years under contract to Davis & Elverson, up to April 1880, he supplied more than 40 serials.

Between 1869 and 1880 19 serials under Ellis' own name appeared in "Saturday Night," 10 more by a United States Detective, 8 under the pen name, Geoffrey Randolph and 4 with the nom de plume, Frank Faulkner. That makes a total of 41, to which should probably be added one serial under the pseudonym, Lucie St. Deane and two others announced but, for some obscure reason, not published until many years later.

If Ellis had written the Fannie Fairie serials also, he would certainly have mentioned "more than 50 serials" or, perhaps, even "more than 60 serials" to Bonner.

Two explanations of the use of Mark Middleton for reprints of an Ellis sketch and of a serial by Mrs. Wag-gaman must now be considered. The first is that "The Hearthstone" reprints from "Saturday Night" were ascribed to various writers without any reference to their original authors. The second is that the application of Mark Middleton to the reprint of "The Heart's Secret" was a solitary error.

My own inclination is to favor the second theory, for three reasons. Number one is that none of the Ellis sketches reprinted in "The Hearthstone" has been ascribed to another

known author or to the proven pen name of another author. Perhaps it should be added that quite a few original Ellis by-lines have been changed to different, yet proven, by-lines of Ellis. Number two is that I have found no "Saturday Night" sketches by known authors ascribed to Ellis or to any of his pen names. Number three is that all the other serials reprinted in "The Hearthstone" have the same author as in "Saturday Night," so far as my present research reveals.

However all this is not proof and so the 23 new names can only be rated as possible and not as proven pseudonyms of Ellis. The matter merits further investigation, which I hope to be able to give it whilst preparing a bibliographical listing of the two story papers for your editor.

Three more pen names have been linked with Ellis through sketches in the story paper, "Young Ireland," which was published in Dublin. The particulars are:

1. "The Coiner's Cave" (Y.I. Vol. I No. 29, 9 Oct. 1875) by A New York Detective is a reprint of "Crime in a Cave" by An Officer of the U. S. Secret Service (S.N. Vol. XII No. 43, 10 July 1875).
- 2a. "Saved by a Robber. A True Story of Adventure" (Y.I. Vol. II No. 46, 11 Nov. 1876) by A. F. Hill is the same as "An Honorable Robber" by A. P. Morton (H. Vol. II No. 39, 16 Aug. 1884).
- 2b. "Who Was the Robber?" (Y.I. Vol. II No. 50, 9 Dec. 1876) by A. F. Hill was reprinted with the same title as by A. P. Morton (H. Vol. I No. 48, 20 Oct. 1883).
3. "A Night Among Snakes; or, My Terrible Experience in New Mexico" (Y.I. Vol. I—New Series—No. 10, 4 Aug. 1888) by An Old Hunter is a reprint of "A Night with Rattlesnakes" by The Ex-Reporter (Banner Weekly Vol. V No. 244, 10 July 1887).

It should be added, perhaps, that there is no suggestion that the pseudonym, "A New York Detective," as used in Tousey publications, belonged to Edward S. Ellis. In fact I go no

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 DAN THE DETECTIVE, Carleton, 1883
 DEAN DUNHAM, U. S. Book, Leather-clad Tales #32, 1891
 ERIE TRAIN BOY, THE, U. S. Book, Leather-clad Tales #26, 1890
 ERRAND BOY, THE, Burt, Boys' Home Library #14, 1888, paper
 FINDING A FORTUNE, Penn Publ. Co., 1904
 \$500; or JACOB MARLOWE'S SECRET, U. S. Book Co., Leather-clad Tales #23, 1890
 FRANK AND FEARLESS, J. H. Coates, 1897
 FRANK FOWLER, Burt, Boys' Home Library #4, 1887, paper
 FROM FARM TO FORTUNE, Stitt, 1905
 JERRY THE BACKWOODS BOY, Marshon, 1904
 JOE'S LUCK, Burt, Boys' Home Library #1, 1887, paper
 LESTER'S LUCK, J. H. Coates, 1901
 MARK STANTON (Putnam), U. S. Book, Leather-clad Tales #25, 1890
 NED NEWTON (Putnam), U. S. Book, Leather-clad Tales #24, 1890
 NEW SCHOOLMA'AM (anon.?), Paperback, copyright #10391
 NEW YORK BOY, A (Putnam), U. S. Book, Leather-clad Tales #30, 1891
 ODDS AGAINST HIM, THE, Penn Publ. Co., 1890
 PAUL THE PEDDLER, Loring, 1871
 RALPH RAYMOND'S HEIR (Hamilton), Gleason & Co., 1869
 RANDY OF THE RIVER, Chatterton-Peck, 1906
 ROBERT COVERDALE'S STRUGGLE, Street & Smith, Medal Library #555
 RUFUS AND ROSE, Loring, 1870
 SILAS SNOBDEN'S OFFICE BOY (anon.?), Ogilvie, Sunset Series, paper
 TIMOTHY CRUMP'S WARD (anon.), Loring, 1866
 TOM TRACY (Putnam), Munsey Popular Series #10, 1888
 TONY THE HERO, Ogilvie, 1880
 WREN WINTER'S TRIUMPH, Thompson & Thomas, 1902
 YOUNG ADVENTURER, THE, Loring, 1878
 YOUNG EXPLORER, THE, Loring, 1880
 YOUNG MINER, THE, Loring, 1879

In addition:

The following Street & Smith, Medal Library (paperbacks): 87 93 326 513 555.
 Any volume carrying as author's name "Arthur Lee Putnam."
 Munsey's Magazine, March 1892, carrying "A Fancy of Hers."
 Golden Argosy, Vol. 3, #154 thru Vol. 4, #172 (Nov. 14, 1885-Mar. 20, 1886)
 Argosy, Vol. 16, 1893, carrying "Cast Upon the Breakers."
 New York Weekly, Jan. 7 through Feb. 4, 1864.
 Magazines carrying short stories or poems by Alger or Putnam.

As any of these (or other interesting Alger items, as first ed.) become available, please advise me as to condition and price. In the case of other titles, please include statement as to publisher, date (if indicated), and brief description of cover. In the case of any title listed, you are sure of an offer.

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further than to suggest that "A New York Detective," when used in "Young Ireland," may have been an Ellis pen name.

Equally, while "An Old Hunter," when used in "Young Ireland," is definitely an Ellis pen name, I do not think that fact proves anything about "An Old Hunter," when used as a by-line by other publishers, such as George Munro.

A. F. Hill, author of many sketches in "Saturday Night," is given as a pen name of Thomas W. Hanshew in Miller's "Dime Novel Authors." I know nothing about Miller's source of information.

Col. A. D. Hynes; Du Val; Ralph Ringwood.

Munro's Ten Cent Novel No. 212 (George Munro, New York, 29 Sep. 1871) is "The Invisible Scout. A Romance of Early Kentucky" by A. D. H., author of "Old Ben Wooley," "The Trapper's Bride," "The White-Haired Hunter," "The Seminole War Trail" and "The Black Dwarf."

Munro's Ten Cent Novel No. 186 (George Munro, New York, 29 Sep. 1870) is "The Treasure Cave or The Buccaneer's Secret" by Du Val, author of "The Trapper's Bride," "The White-Haired Hunter" and "The Trail of the Seminoles."

Starr's American Novels No. 57 (Frank Starr & Co., New York, 24 Jan. 1871) is "The Black Dwarf or Tiger-Tail the Seminole" by Ralph Ringwood.

In "The Saturday Journal" (Beadle & Co., New York, Vol. II, No. 97, 20 Jan. 1872) a prominent editorial announced the death of Capt. Alfred D. Hynes, the "Ralph Ringwood" who had become so dear to the readers of "Saturday Journal." This editorial is *prima facie* evidence that Hynes was a real person.

It is significant, however, that no record of Hynes was traced by Professor Johannsen ("The House of Beadle & Adams, University of Oklahoma Press, Norman, 1950, Vol. II, Page 149), in spite of the intensive research that went into the preparation of the Beadle author biographies.

A statement in the editorial that

Beadle had on hand at the time of Hynes' death a large quantity of matter by him is quite out of keeping with the custom of the time. Story paper proprietors tended to live from hand to mouth, in the case of serials sometimes rushing the first chapters into print before the author had completed the manuscript.

Over 40 new sketches by Ralph Ringwood were published in "The Saturday Journal" after the death announcement. This should be compared with 59 sketches up to the time of the announcement.

If one accepts the possibility that A. D. Hynes may NOT have been a real person, there is some evidence to support the theory that Edward S. Ellis used the name as one of his pseudonyms.

- (1) The "biography" of Capt. "Bruin" Adams in "The Saturday Journal" (Vol. I, No. 45, 21 Jan. 1871) is by Ralph Ringwood.
- (2) "Bruin" Adams is a fully proven pen name of Edward S. Ellis. ("Dime Novel Round-Up", Vol. 22, No. 11, 15 Nov. 1954, Page 83).
- (3) A number of sketches by Ralph Ringwood feature Capt. "Bruin" Adams (Cf. "Old Grizzly Adams' 'Nephey,'" Saturday Journal, Vol. I, No. 43, 7 —Jan. 1871).
- (4) At least one sketch by Capt. "Bruin" Adams features Ralph Ringwood ("The Tiger of Ialasco"—a filler on pages 29 to 31 of New & Old Friends (Old Series) No. 1, Beadle & Co., New York, 25 Jan. 1873).

In the absence of any proof Col. A. D. Hynes, Du Val and Ralph Ringwood can only be classified as circumstantial pseudonyms of Edward S. Ellis. Against the implication of the interchange of characters that the same author wrote the "Bruin" Adams and Ralph Ringwood stories, must be set the riddle as to why Beadle would announce the "death" of someone who had never existed and whose creator was very much alive. In that connection, however, the reader is referred to an equally intriguing, although not so prominent death an-

nouncement by George Munro about L. Augustus Jones ("The New York Fireside Companion," George Munro, New York, Vol. VI, No. 151, 19 Sep. 1870). For further comments on that case the reader is invited to refer to "The Dime Novel Round-Up Bibliographical Listing of Munro's Ten Cent Novels and Beadle's Frontier Series," Note Number 33, Page 36.

In both cases the possibility cannot be ignored that the "death" was more journalistic convenience. So far as A. D. Hynes is concerned the idea appeals to me, because it is in keeping with the delightful "Bruin" Adams biography hoax, which was perpetrated by Beadle and Ellis on the readers of "The Saturday Journal" ("The House of Beadle & Adams," Vol. II, Page 6).

* * *

There is a slender network of evidence that six of the by-lines used in Munro's Ten Cent Novels (George Munro, New York) were in fact all pen names of Edward S. Ellis. In giving the details of this evidence below, the abbreviation "M" is used for Munro's Ten Cent Novels. For example 146-M means Munro's Ten Cent Novels No. 146.

- (1) 146-M: "Hunters and Redskins" by One Who Has Slept on the Prairie was attributed to Captain Carleton in "The American Catalogue of Books for 1869" (Leyboldt & Holt, New York, Page 26 March List). Captain Carleton is a proven pen name of Edward S. Ellis.
- (2) 136-M: "Old Paul, The Mountain Hunter" by One Who Has Slept on the Prairie has been found with "Ellis" scribbled in pencil at the top of the wrapper. Mr. George French, who supplied the writer with this copy of the novel, believes the writing to be that of the late Charles Austin, a well known authority on dime novel pseudonyms.
- (3) A copy of 135-M in the University of Minnesota Library advertises 136-M as by the author of "Old Nick of the Swamp."
- (4) 100-M is "Old Nick of the Swamp

or The Bravo's Vengeance" by An Old Hunter.

- (5) 158-M is "Lantern-Jawed Bob" by the author of "Long-Legged Joe," "Clumsy Foot" and "Old Nick of the Swamp."
- (6) 17-M is "Long-Legged Joe or The Demon of the Woods" by Dr. Longbow.
- (7) 29-M is "Squint-Eyed Bob, The Bully of the Woods or Paddy's Experience among the Indians" by the author of "Long-Legged Joe," "Rattlesnake Dick," "The Imps o' the Prairie," "Joe the Sarpint," etc., etc.
- (8) 21-M is "Rattlesnake Dick or The Flower of the Wigwam" by Nicodemus Wildfire. It is also a sequel to 17-M.
- (9) A copy of 127-M in the collection of The American Antiquarian Society advertises 128-M as by the author of "Old Nick of the Swamp."
- (10) 128-M is "Hunter Zeb" by the author of "Dog Face" and "Hiding Tom."
- (11) 103-M is "Dog Face. A Story of Southern Forests and Prairies" by Captain Maxwell.
- (12) 119-M is "Hiding Tom or The Fox of the Prairie" by A Favorite Author.

Having regard to this evidence, I have re-classified "One Who Has Slept on the Prairie" and "An Old Hunter" (George Munro publications only) as possible pseudonyms of Edward S. Ellis. I have also added "Dr. Longbow," "Nicodemus Wildfire," "Captain Maxwell" and "A Favorite Author" (George Munro publications only) to that category.

Our New Contributor (George Munro's "The New York Fireside Companion only): "Old Ned Brophy or The Fugitives of the Chattahoochie" by Our New Contributor ("The New York Fireside Companion," Vol. IV, No. 89, 13 July 1869 to Vol. V, No. 105, 2 Nov. 1869) was reprinted as Munro's Ten Cent Novels Nos. 183 and 184, both by Edward S. Ellis. No. 183 was entitled "The Fugitives of the Chattahoochie" and No. 184 "Che-wacho, The Creek Chief. The probable

publication dates were 18th August and 1st September 1870.

Nick Wilson: "Life on the Flat Boat or The Scouts of Mad Anthony" by Nick Wilson ("The New York Weekly, Street & Smith, New York, Vol. XVII, No. 29, 12 June 1862 to No. 36, 31 July 1862) was reprinted as "Mad Anthony's Scouts or The Rangers of Kentucky" by Emerson Rodman (Starr's American Novels No. 49, 4 Oct. 1870, Frank Starr & Company, New York). Therefore, since Emerson Rodman is now a fully proven pen name of Ellis, Nick Wilson must also have been his pseudonym.

End of Part III

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